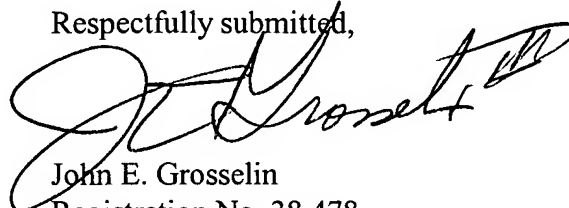


**REMARKS**

The filing of this Amendment overcomes the objections raised by the Examiner in the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 C.F.R. § 1.121) dated April 23, 2004. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12 and 16-27, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John E. Grosselin", is written over the typed name.

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